

TELEGRAPHIC BRIEFS.

Fifteen thousand girl waiters in New York city will strike unless shorter hours and better wages are granted within two months.

Twenty-two feet of ground on Main street, Kansas City, Mo., has just brought the highest price ever paid in the city—\$4,545 per front foot.

When American Ambassador Meyers presented his letters of recall to Emperor Nicholas, the czar conferred on him the grand cordon of the Alexander Nevski order.

The interstate oil conference called by Governor Hoch of Kansas, to consist of representatives of surrounding states, was fixed at Topeka, for February 5th.

The Southwestern Lumberman's Association in session at Kansas City, adopted an anti-trust resolution and courted investigation of its own organization and methods.

Well informed persons in Vatican circles declare new instructions from the pope relative to the future organization of Catholic churches in France have been forwarded to Paris.

Mrs. Stonewall Jackson has declined a pension of \$100 a month, voted by the North Carolina legislature. She recommends that the amount be appropriated for the relief of destitute widows of the Confederacy.

It is understood that the appointment of Professor William Bullock Clark of the Johns-Hopkins university, Baltimore, to the directorship of the United States geological survey has been practically decided upon.

George A. Burnham, jr., convicted of grand larceny from the Mutual Reserve Life of New York, of which he was counsel and vice president, and sentenced to two years imprisonment, has commenced serving his term at Sing Sing.

The Chicago bureau of the Alliance against Accident Fraud will invite all corporations in the Central states which are likely to be interested in the movement to join, and bureaus will be organized in every large city in the country.

Trouble is threatened in Santiago de Las Vegas, province of Havana, owing to the refusal of the acting mayor to turn over his authority to the actual mayor. The government does not apprehend any serious trouble, though the mayor of Santiago de Las Vegas has asked for assistance.

With arms entwined an unknown young man and a young woman stood on the tracks of the Pennsylvania railroad over Newton creek, N. J., and calmly waited until an electric train ran them down. Both were killed and their bodies hurled into the water.

Several Mexicans were ambushed by Yaqui Indians at Suaqui, Sonora, Mexico. Two Mexicans were killed and several wounded. Small bands of Yaquis are roaming over lower Sonora, attacking Mexican camps, since the battle with the Mexican troops, when twenty-five Mexican soldiers were killed and the Yaqui Indians were routed.

The compromise denatured alcohol bill, agreed upon by the House committee on ways and means, carries a provision that the measure shall not become effective until after September 1, 1908. This date was fixed at the request of the commissioner of internal revenue, Mr. Yerkes, for the purpose of granting him adequate time to prepare regulations for the manufacture of alcohol by small manufacturers not connected with distilleries.

Virgil P. Kline, representing the Standard Oil company, in a conference with the prosecutor, Mr. David, agreed to waive a personal service of the indictments recently found against the Standard Oil company of Ohio and its subsidiary companies and John D. Rockefeller. Personal service on H. H. Rogers, J. D. Archbold, Wesley H. Tilford and Frank C. Braslow was not waived. This action will require the prosecutor, David, to prove that these men have been in Ohio in the last three years.



Uncle Sam—By the Great Horn Spoon! If I owned the railroads and put up that kind of service your Uncle would never hear the end of what a horrible failure Government ownership was.

A bill granting a pension of \$25 a month to Mrs. Stonewall Jackson, the widow of the distinguished Confederate general, is pending in the senate. Jackson was a graduate of the West Point Military Academy and served in the United States army for several years before the Civil war. Upon the occasion of the visit of President and Mrs. Roosevelt to Charlotte, N. C., last year, Mrs. Jackson was one of the first persons the president met. He presented her to Mrs. Roosevelt and the two paid a visit to the home of Mrs. Jackson, who has lived in Charlotte many years.

Nearly 30,000 people paid tribute to the memory of Senator R. A. Alger as his body lay in state in the Detroit city hall. For three hours and a half a continuous line of people passed through the corridor for a last look at the dead senator. Pathetic and moving incidents abounded as the throng passed before the open casket. Old soldiers who had served in the Civil war with him, saluted as they slowly marched by the body of their old commander with tear dimmed eyes. When the last person had passed before the casket, the senator's body was carried out to the hearse and taken to the family home on Fort street.

Under the proposed legislation relating to tribal rolls nearly 2,000 children of negro-Indian parentage will be admitted to the citizenship rolls of the Choctaw and Chickashaw nations. These children are now enrolled as freedmen and as such are entitled to forty acres of land. If the provision adopted by the committee becomes a law, they will be entitled to share in all of the property and money of the Choctaw and Chickashaw nations, including the proceeds from the coal fields owned by the Indians, which are worth many millions. Under the amendment the descendants of any Choctaw or Chickasaw Indian and negro woman or negro man and Indian woman, whether the parents were

married or not, shall share in the distribution of lands and funds of the Choctaw and Chickasaw nations.

Articles of incorporation obtained by several Chicagoans from the secretary of state at Springfield for a medical and dental school to be known as the Andrew Carnegie university have given rise to widespread misapprehension that the philanthropic Scot has chosen Chicago as the beneficiary of a new experiment on his part in charity. As a matter of fact the project was not even broached to Mr. Carnegie and the use of his name as that of the new institution is merely complimentary. The incorporators are Chicago physicians. "We chose Mr. Carnegie's name," said one of the founders, "as that of our school merely to honor him and without any solicitation that he should assist us in a financial way or otherwise. None of his money has been given toward the enterprise."

At a farewell dinner to James Bryce, the new English ambassador to the United States, given at Manchester by the Reform club, Mr. Bryce, replying to a toast to his health, referred to Great Britain's good relations with all the powers and added: "There is one friendship which is of especial value to all of us; I refer to the United States. I am happy to think our relations with that country never have been better. Never, indeed do I think they have been so good as they are at this moment. The incident fresh in your memory need be referred to only for the sake of saying that the moral of it was 'this is how different things are now, happily, from those times when an incident like that would have been the signal of cries of defiance in the press of both countries.' Fortunately in both countries no one took this matter as anything but an occasion wherein we could show our trust in one another."

Listen to all advice, then act on your own best judgment.



A CAUSE FOR THANKFULNESS. The Senate and the House—it looks as though we can pull through the rest of this session without any of us getting indicted.

Bradstreet's report recently issued says while weather conditions are still a bar to widespread activity in trade and industry, evidences of improvement in spring demand and enlarging shipments are a feature of the week. Additional favorable items are an expansion in the grain markets, long stagnant, based apparently on better export inquiry; rather more cheerful advices from South Atlantic states heretofore reporting trade and collections backward; a decided easing of time money rates with a resumption of demand for commercial paper and good reports from the winter wheat crop. In the Northwest heavy snows have checked the wheat movement and coal trains still have the right of way in that section, the result being beneficial to Western coal trade, but checking sales and collections, particularly in the Dakotas. In the Ohio valley rains and floods have retarded demand and transportation and caused heavy damage, but the failure of the expected freeze to follow the floods is a good point for winter wheat. Collections are irregular. In the Southwest trade is good and the outlook for spring is excellent.

The Roman Catholic church has won in the first skirmish of the struggle in Spain to separate church and state. With five Liberal ministries broken up in eight months owing to the irreconcilable differences between the leaders, King Alfonso finally decided that he had no alternative except to recall Senor Maura, the ex-premier, and leader of the Conservatives, and ascertain what a strong Conservative cabinet can accomplish. The religious issue has been the root of all dissensions. The accession of Senor Maura to power is regarded as a sweeping victory for the clericals and may rouse a revolutionary spirit. The struggle of the French government against clericalism and the success of France in divorcing the church from the French temporal power encouraged the Spanish Liberals and Republicans to organize for similar purpose.

The interstate commerce commission sent to Congress today a report of the investigations made by it under the Tillman-Gillespie resolution concerning the relations of common carriers by rail to the production and distribution of oil. The report covers the distribution of petroleum and its products east of the Mississippi river, and incidentally, the Kansas and Texas fields. The report points out generally the methods by which the Standard Oil company "has built up and perpetuated its monopoly." It is asserted that "the ruin of its competitors has been a distinct part of the policy of the Standard Oil company in the past, systematically and persistently pursued. "No instance," the report says, "is found where any railway company has been interested in oil lands or in petroleum production, and only one instance is shown where officials of a railway company were interested in the production and sale of oil. This relates to certain officials of the Baltimore & Ohio Southwestern railroad having owned stock of the Argand Refining company, which was, on their recommendation, afterwards sold to the Standard Oil company, and the lubricating contract which the road transferred to the Galena Oil company, a Standard company."

The proposition which the French bishops, with the approval of the pope, have now submitted to the government appears to offer the first real prospect of an adjustment of the conflict between the state and church under the separation regime. While it involves a material modification of the position taken in the last papal encyclical, the proposition put forward has all the appearance of an ultimatum. Whether the government, in spite of the concessions made and being made in the interest of religious peace, will accept a settlement based upon the absolute recognition of the Roman hierarchy remains to be seen. The model contract which the bishops have submitted provides for the virtual lease of the churches in perpetuity of the parish priests by the mayors, the leases being for eighteen years and renewable by their successors. The leases, which carry a stipulation engaging the communal, municipal and state authorities not to interfere with the administration of the church and parish, are invalid without the express ratification of the bishop and become null the moment the parish priest loses the bishop's authorization. The bishops must act together to insure the acceptance of the contracts everywhere or nowhere.

Scandal arising from the farewell dinner given in honor of a departing diplomat is the latest sensation of Rome and it may end in a charge of murder against Vera Sylvas, a danseuse. A dinner was given to the diplomat and the secretary of a foreign embassy to the quirinal. Among the guests were many representatives of embassies and legations to the quirinal and the Vatican. After midnight, it is said, the dinner became a brawl. Two diners seized Vera Sylvas, a danseuse, and tossed her upon the table. The diners pelted her with flowers, bread and lumps of sugar. One diner tossed a salt cellar at the young woman, the salt entered her eyes, whereupon the danseuse, it is said, seized a champagne bottle and struck Senor Diaz, secretary of the Spanish embassy to the Vatican, on the head. Diaz fell to the floor in a pool of blood. The guests took sides for and against the danseuse and a fight ensued. The restaurant bill for the damages was \$600. Prof. Mazzoni, the pope's physician, found that the diplomat's skull had been fractured and one eye destroyed. He may die. Vera Sylvas fled and police are pursuing her.

The net earnings of the United States Steel corporation for the last three months of 1906 were \$51,744,964, the greatest on record, and the earnings for the year were \$156,619,111 or more than double those of 1904, and nearly 37 millions greater than in 1905. The surplus, after fixed charges and preferred and common stock dividends for the quarter ending December 31, 1906, is \$18,824,545, as compared with \$14,897,318 in the previous quarter and a surplus after charges and preferred stock dividend, only, in the corresponding quarter of 1905 of \$16,416,563. From the surplus of the quarter there was appropriated 15 1/2 million dollars on account of expenditures made and to be made on authorized appropriations for additional property, construction and discharge of capital obligations. This leaves a balance of surplus for the quarter of \$3,324,545. The corporation officially reports unfilled orders on hand December 31, 1906, amounting to 8,489,780 tons as compared with 7,936,884 tons on September 30, 1906; 6,809,589 tons on June 30, 1906; 7,018,712 tons on March 31, 1906, and 7,605,036 tons on December 31, 1905. A dividend of 1 1/2 of 1 percent on the 508 millions of common stock, and 1 3/4 percent on the 360 millions of preferred stock, out of the last quarter's earnings, was declared by the directors today. The failure to announce an increase in the dividend on the common stock caused much dissatisfaction among some brokers and stockholders. It was intimated on Wall street that the company is lending money at low interest to corporations controlled by the directors.

William Whiteley, London's merchant prince, known as the "universal provider," who was killed by a school teacher, bequeathed \$5,000,000 to the poor of London. His will provides for the erection of almshouses for the deserving poor. Whiteley was the wealthiest and greatest retail merchant in all England. After a conference in his private office with a fashionably dressed young man the old merchant came out and was followed by his visitor, who seemed persistent. The merchant waved his hand as though intimating that the interview was at an end. He said he would call the police and turned his back on his caller. As he did so the young man drew a revolver and fired two shots. Both were at close range and both took effect. Immediately the murderer turned the revolver on himself and fell beside the body of his victim.

Mrs. Jennie L. May has been indicted for assault with intent to kill Lucien Conen at Washington, D. C. Conen lived more than a year and a day after the shooting, during which time Mrs. May was held to be punished for murder in the first degree, but under the law she could not be punished in that degree after the elapse of the time stated, and has accordingly been indicted for the lesser offense. According to the statements made at the time, Mrs. May said the shooting was the result of Conen's repeating slanderous stories regarding her.

Frank Cox, at present judge of the supreme court of appeals of West Virginia, has tendered his resignation. The salary is \$4,500. Cox was elected in 1906 and still had ten years to serve. He declares inadequate salary is the reason for his resignation.